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Atty Dkt. No.: CLON-015

USSN: 09/440,829

Via Express Mail EV 3339167694S

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	CLON015
First Named Inventor	Chenchik et al.
Application Number	09/440,829
Filing Date	November 15, 1999
Group Art Unit	1655
Examiner Name	Forman, B.
Title	Long Oligonucleotide Arrays

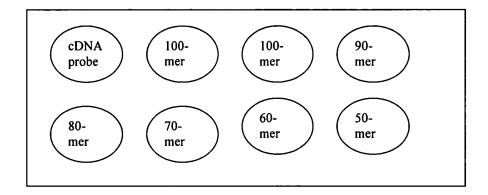
Sir:

This Declaration and the attached Exhibit are being submitted in conjunction with the Applicants' Response to the Final Rejection dated June 20, 2003.

- I, Mark Lewis, do hereby declare as follows.
- I am the General Manager of BD Biosciences Clontech. As such, I have the power to make declarations on behalf of the Assignee (Clontech Laboratories, Inc.) of the above-captioned application.
- 2. The inventors of the above-captioned application are not available to sign this declaration as the inventors are no longer employees of the Assignee of the above-captioned application. Accordingly, I am signing this declaration pursuant to MPEP § 715.04 (D).
- 3. Enclosed with this declaration are notebook pages of Alexander (Shura) Munishkin that provide evidence of conception and reduction to practice of the claimed invention prior to October 4, 1999.
- 4. Specifically, as evidenced by Exhibit A, a test array of 50-mer to 100-mer probes immobilized on a glass support for the target "C370" nucleic acid was

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produced. Specifically, for the C370-2 nucleic acid, the array had 8 different probe spots. The probe spots were arranged on the array as follows:



As such, each different probe spot was made up of a specific length of probe molecule, i.e., 50 mers, 60 mers, 70 mers, 80 mers, 90 mers, 100 mers and, as a control, a cDNA probe (which is much longer). The resultant array was then contacted with labeled molecules prepared from polyA+ RNA placenta and a primer mix that included a primer specific for the C370 target of interest. Various hybridization conditions were evaluated and the results are provided on the second page of Exhibit A. As can be seen, it was readily appreciated that probes having a length of 60 to about 100 nt gave superior results to the longer probe cDNA probe, whose signal is much fainter than that yielded by the oligo probes. Specifically, the statement is made: "Hybridization to Oligos is much more efficiently than to cDNA..." The dates have been redacted from Exhibit A. All redacted dates are prior to October 4, 1999.

- 5. The evidence provided in Exhibit A establishes that an array having probes ranging in length from 60 to about 100 nt was conceived and reduced to practice prior to October 4, 1999.
- 6. I do hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to

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be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Date: 1//8/03

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Lewis

Attachment: Exhibit A

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